## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-35 were pending at the time of the Office Action.

Claims 34 and 35 are canceled.

Claims 1, 4, 6, 10, 11, 15, 23, and 27-31 are amended.

Accordingly, claims 1-33 remain pending.

1.    (Currently Amended)    A method of synchronizing activation of scheduled update data among a plurality of web servers, wherein each of the plurality of web servers is coupled to a common data server, the method comprising:

receiving a scheduled activation time from the data server;

prior to the scheduled activation time, receiving the scheduled update updated data into staging caches in the plurality of web servers; and

at the scheduled activation time, activating the scheduled update data by causing the scheduled update updated data from the staging caches within each of the plurality of web servers to be accessible from an active cache within each of the plurality of web servers.

2.    (Original)    A method as recited in claim 1 further comprising:

comparing a time associated with a clock in each web server to a time associated with a clock in the data server; and

adjusting the scheduled activation time on each web server by the time difference between the clock in the web server and the clock in the data server.

3.    (Original)    A method as recited in claim 1 wherein each web server contains a clock, and wherein the clocks in the plurality of web servers are not synchronized with one another.

4.    (Currently Amended)    A method as recited in claim 1 wherein the causing the scheduled update data to be accessible from the active cache copying data comprises swapping an active data cache pointer with a staged data cache pointer.

5.    (Original)    A method as recited in claim 1 wherein no communications are required between the individual web servers to synchronize their data.

6.    (Currently amended)    A method as recited in claim 1 wherein retrieving scheduled update updated data into staging caches in the plurality of web servers is performed asynchronously.

7.    (Original)    A method as recited in claim 1 further comprising:
after the scheduled activation time, updating data caches in the data server.

8.    (Original)    A method as recited in claim 1 further comprising:
after the scheduled activation time, calculating a next scheduled activation time.

9.     (Original)     A method as recited in claim 1 further comprising:

after the scheduled activation time, updating data caches in the data server and calculating a next scheduled activation time, wherein the updating and calculating are performed by the first web server to initiate a retrieval process after the scheduled activation time.

10.     (Currently Amended)     A method as recited in claim 1 further comprising:

if an additional web server is coupled to the data server, then causing the scheduled update data to be accessible ~~copying data~~ from the ~~an~~ active cache in the data server to an active cache in the additional web server.

11.     (Currently Amended)     A method as recited in claim 1 further comprising:

if one of the plurality of web servers is initialized, then causing the scheduled update data to be accessible ~~copying data~~ from the ~~an~~ active cache in the data server to the active cache in the initialized web server.

12.     (Original)     A method as recited in claim 1 wherein the plurality of web servers comprise a web farm.

13.     (Original)     A method as recited in claim 1 wherein the plurality of web servers comprise a web farm, and wherein the plurality of web servers are load balanced using a domain name service (DNS) round-robin technique.

14.   (Original)    One or more computer-readable memories containing a computer program that is executable by a processor to perform the method recited in claim 1.

15.   (Currently Amended)       A system comprising:

a plurality of web servers coupled to a common data server, wherein each of the plurality of web servers comprises:

a staging cache;

an active data cache coupled to the staging cache;

wherein the web server is configured to ~~retrieve~~ receive a scheduled activation time from the data server, and further configured to receive scheduled update ~~updated~~ data from the data server into the staging cache prior to the scheduled activation time; and

wherein the web server is configured to cause the scheduled update data from the staging cache to be accessible from the active data cache at the scheduled activation time.

16.   (Original)    A system as recited in claim 15 wherein each web server contains a clock having an associated time, and wherein each web server is configured to compare the time associated with the clock in the web server to a time associated with a clock in the data server.

17.    (Original)    A system as recited in claim 16 wherein each web server is further configured to adjust the scheduled activation time on the web server by the time difference between the clock in the web server and the clock in the data server.

18.    (Original)    A system as recited in claim 15 wherein each web server contains a clock, and wherein the clocks in the plurality of web servers are not synchronized with one another.

19.    (Original)    A system as recited in claim 15 wherein the web server is further configured to swap an active data cache pointer with a staged data cache pointer.

20.    (Original)    A system as recited in claim 15 wherein each of the plurality of web servers is configured to update data caches in the data server after the scheduled activation time.

21.    (Original)    A system as recited in claim 15 wherein each of the plurality of web servers is configured to calculate a next scheduled activation time after the scheduled activation time.

22.    (Original)    A system as recited in claim 15 wherein the plurality of web servers comprise a web farm.

23. (Currently Amended)    One or more computer-readable media

having stored thereon a computer program that when executed performs a method

comprising the following steps:

retrieving receiving a scheduled activation time from a data server;

prior to the scheduled activation time, receiving scheduled update updated

data into a staging cache in a server;

at the scheduled activation time, causing scheduled update data from the

staging cache in the server to be accessible from an active cache in the server; and

after the scheduled activation time, updating data caches in the data server

and calculating a next scheduled activation time.


24. (Original)    One or more computer-readable media as recited in

claim 23 further comprising:

comparing a time associated with a clock in each server to a time associated

with a clock in the data server; and

adjusting the scheduled activation time on each server by the time

difference between the clock in the server and the clock in the data server.


25. (Original)    One or more computer-readable media as recited in

claim 23 wherein each server contains a clock, and wherein the clocks in the

plurality of servers are not synchronized with one another.

26.    (Original)    One or more computer-readable media as recited in claim 23 wherein updating data caches in the data server and calculating the next scheduled activation time are performed if another process has not yet updated the data caches or calculated the next scheduled activation time during a current data synchronization cycle.

27.    (Currently Amended)    One or more computer-readable media as recited in claim 23 further comprising:

if the server is initialized, then causing the scheduled update data to be accessible copying data from the an active cache in the data server to the active cache in the initialized server.

28.    (Currently Amended)    One or more computer-readable media as recited in claim 23 wherein the causing the scheduled update data to be accessible from the active cache copying data comprises swapping an active data cache pointer with a staged data cache pointer.

29.    (Currently Amended)    A method of synchronizing activation of scheduled update data among a plurality of web servers, wherein each of the plurality of web servers is coupled to a common data server, the method comprising:

providing a scheduled activation time from the data server to each of the plurality of web servers;

communicating the scheduled update updated data into a staging cache in each of the plurality of web servers prior to the scheduled activation time; and

causing the scheduled update data from the staging cache in each of the plurality of the web servers to be accessible from an active cache in each of the plurality of the web servers at the scheduled activation time.

30.    (Currently amended)         A method as recited in claim 29 wherein the communicating scheduled update ~~updated~~ data into a staging cache is performed asynchronously.

31.    (Currently Amended)         A method as recited in claim 29 wherein the causing the scheduled update data to be accessible from the active cache ~~copying data~~ comprises swapping an active data cache pointer with a staged data cache pointer.

32.    (Original)    A method as recited in claim 29 wherein no communication is required between the web servers to synchronize their data.

33.    (Original)    One or more computer-readable memories containing a computer program that is executable by a processor to perform the method recited in claim 29.

34.    (Canceled)

35.    (Canceled)

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